Westward Expansion Project

You will choose an individual role to research during the period of westward expansion: an **Explorer** with Lewis & Clark, a **Prospector** in the California Gold Rush, a **Pioneer** on the Oregon Trail, a **Native American** during the period of Indian Removal, a **Tejano Settler** in Texas during the Texas Revolution or Mexican-American War, or a **Railroad Worker** on the Transcontinental Railroad. You will:

* Research the role you have chosen
* Write a one-page report on your findings
* Choose ONE project activity to complete

**Assignment**

You must complete a **1 page paper** (doubled spaced) that describes your role in detail. You must also choose **one of the following** projects to complete:

*Post Cards*: Write and illustrate 8 postcards describing your journey to the west. As the camera was not in wide use yet, your postcards will need hand-drawn illustrations. Each postcard should include a note on the back describing your experiences, the landscape, and your hopes and fears. Each postcard should be dated and written in the first person as if you were there experiencing the journey yourself.

*Scrapbook*: Create a scrapbook with illustrations and captions that tell the story of your journey. The scrapbook should be at least five pages and include two illustrations and captions on each page. You may also decide to put three dimensional items such as samples of plants or animals, tokens from Native Americans, or other artifacts you may have encountered on your journey west.

*Travel Brochure:* Create a brochure that advertises the journey west. Be sure to accurately describe the positive aspects and negative aspects of traveling west in order to encourage settlers to travel. Give them tips for their journey that only someone who has traveled would understand. Your brochure should include illustrations as well as text.

*Comic Book*: You will need to tell the story of Westward expansion through dialogue and information in a comic using illustrations and dialogue between the characters. You should develop 3-5 pages and include facts and dates in order of their occurrence in history.

*Newspaper*: Write 4 articles and accompany each article with a picture. Use all your creativity to make it look authentic to the 1800s. You will want to research what newspapers looked like back then. You can even include advertising appropriate to the time. You can do the project by hand; however, if you use the computer, you will be able to make it look more professional.

*Create a Board Game:* Game must be educational as well as entertaining. You must include facts you have learned. Good for the Gold Rush!

Your Grade:

Role Report (1 page, double-spaced):

Detailed description of the role in its relationship to Westward Expansion \_\_\_\_\_/25 points

Fills one page or more typed and double-spaced

 \_\_\_\_\_/10 points

Includes a list of references used \_\_\_\_\_/10 points

Generally free from spelling and grammar errors

 \_\_\_\_\_/5 points

Project:

 Detailed and informative of Westward Expansion

 \_\_\_\_\_/50 points

 Neatness, creativity, and color \_\_\_\_\_/25 points

 Follows the directions of the chosen assignment

 \_\_\_\_\_/25 points

 TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_/150 points